

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 WARSAW 06450 281302Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 /035 W
 -----121901 290835Z /15
R 281221Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6439
INFO USICA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 6450

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SOPN PL
SUBJ: MFA COMPLAINT ABOUT ARTICLES OF WASHINGTON POST
CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL GETLER

1. RESPONDING TO MFA REQUEST, EMBASSY OFFICER TODAY CALLED
ON JEREMI CZULINSKI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
FOR INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.

2. CZULINSKI SAID HE WISHED TO EXPRESS THE MINIS-
TRY'S DISPLEASURE WITH THE ARTICLES WRITTEN BY WASHING-

TON POST CORRESPONDENT GETLER. HE CHARACTERIZED GETLER'S
APPROACH AS "...ENTIRELY NEGATIVE, DESPITE THE HELP
HE GOT FROM ME PERSONALLY AND INTERPRESS." THREE SUB-
JECTS TREATED BY GETLER WERE SPECIALLY MENTIONED:
THE FLYING UNIVERSITY, DISSIDENCE, AND POLISH JOKES, OF
WHICH THE LAST LISTED DREW THE MOST CRITICISM. CZULINSKI
WENT ON AT GREAT LENGTH ABOUT THE PHENOMENON OF
POLISH JOKES IN THE UNITED STATES AND SAW GETLER'S
ARTICLE ON THE SUBJECT, WHICH ALSO APPEARED IN THE
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE AS BEING A PARTICU-
LARLY CHEAP SHOT. HE CONCLUDED HIS PRESEN-
TATION BY ASKING THE EMBASSY OFFICER TO TRANMIT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 WARSAW 06450 281302Z

THE MINISTRY'S DISSATISFACTION TO THE POST AND TO
GETLER PERSONALLY.

3. THE EMBASSY OFFICER TOLD CZULINSKI WHY IT WOULD
NOT BE SENSIBLE FOR THE EMBASSY TO WRITE THE POST
OR GETLER. HE REPLIED THAT HE KNEW HOW OUR PRESS
OPERATED AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THEREFORE WE COULD

NOT WRITE OFFICIALLY, BUT COULDN'T YOU DO IT ON A PERSONAL BASIS, HE ASKED. THE EMBASSY OFFICER SAID HE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PASSING THE MESSAGE ALONG THE NEXT TIME GETLER CAME TO WARSAW, BUT THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO WRITE ANYTHING EVEN ON A PERSONAL BASIS. THE CONVERSATION THEN SHIFTED TO OTHER SUBJECTS, MOSTLY ABOUT CZULINSKI'S BOSS, STEFAN STANISZEWSKI, WHO IS SPENDING A MONTH BRUSHING UP HIS ENGLISH AT SOME INSTITUTE IN ENGLAND.

4. COMMENT: CZULINSKI WAS RELAXED AND FRIENDLY, EVEN AS HE DELIVERED HIS MESSAGE, SO IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT HE WAS ONLY FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE KNOW THE POLISH JOKE ARTICLE HIT MANY OFFICIAL POLES WHERE THEY HURT. INTERPRESS DIRECTOR WOJCIECHOWSKI, AT LUNCH WITH THE SAME EMBASSY OFFICER LAST WEEK, STRONGLY COMPLAINED ABOUT GETLER'S ARTICLE AND SAID HE HAD BEEN CALLED BY MFA CHEF DE CABINET ALOJSZY BARTOSZEK WHO ALSO COMPLAINED.

IT IS IRONIC THAT THE POLES COMPLAIN SO BITTERLY ABOUT THIS ARTICLE, FOR IN EFFECT THEY ARRANGED THAT IT BE WRITTEN, DEPARTMENT II DIRECTOR SZEWCZYK ASKED THE DCM SEVERAL WEEKS AGO TO TRY TO INTEREST SOME AMERICAN JOURNALIST IN WRITING AN ARTICLE ABOUT WHAT POLES THOUGHT OF POLISH JOKES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 WARSAW 06450 281302Z

IN AMERICAN. END COMMENT.
SCHAUFEELE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DISPUTES, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978WARSAW06450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780311-0832
Format: TEL
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978077/aaaaafpc.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 62480477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2036961
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA COMPLAINT ABOUT ARTICLES OF WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL GETLER
TAGS: SOPN, PL, US, WASHINGTON POST, (GETLER, MICHAEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/62480477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014